

REMARKS

The Examiner's action mailed on May 31, 2005 has been received and its contents carefully considered.

Claims 1-8 are pending in this application. In this Amendment, claims 5 and 7 are canceled without prejudice or waiver, and claims 1, 3, 6 and 8 are amended. As a result, claims 1, 3, 6 and 8 are now all independent claims.

The Applicant expresses appreciation for the Examiner's indication that claims 5-8 would be allowable if rewritten in dependent form including all the limitations of their respective base claims any intervening claims. Accordingly, independent claims 1 and 3 are rewritten herein to incorporate the limitations of dependent claims 7 and 5, respectively, and dependent claims 6 and 8 are rewritten herein to incorporate all the limitations of independent claims 3 and 1, respectively. As a result, all of claims 1, 3, 6 and 8 are now in independent form and in condition for allowance. Original claims 2 and 4 are allowable for at least the reason that they depend from claims 1 and 3, respectively.

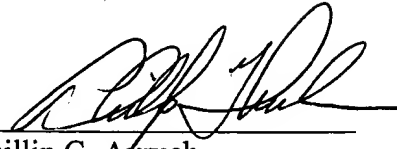
In the current Action, claims 1-4 continue to stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Eloranta (PCT/EP99/01760, Int'l Publ. No. WO 00/56019, Sept. 21, 2000). It is respectfully submitted that the rejection is moot in view of the amendment herein of claims 1 and 3 to place them in condition for allowance.

It is respectfully submitted that this Amendment places the application in condition for allowance without the need for any further search and/or substantive examination, and therefore should be entered pursuant to 37 CFR §1.116. Notice of such allowance, with claims 1-4, 6 and 8, as amended, is earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that a conference would be helpful in resolving any open issues regarding this application, the Examiner is respectfully invited to call the undersigned attorney to schedule an interview.

Payment of the applicable fee of \$200 for one independent fee in excess of three, is submitted herewith. Should this payment to be inadvertently missing, or insufficient in amount, or should any other fee be due in connection herewith, please deduct the same from our Deposit Account No. 18-0002 notify the undersigned accordingly.

Respectfully submitted,



July 19, 2005

Date

Phillip G. Avruch

Registration No. 46,076

RABIN & BERDO, P.C.

Customer No. 23995

Telephone : (202) 371-8976

Telefax : (202) 408-0924

E-mail : firm@rabinchamp.com

PGA/